

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT : Crash of U-2R, 057

25X1 1. Detachment "H" U-2R 057 crashed at [REDACTED]
25X1 at 0640Z 24 November 1970. The aircraft was completely destroyed on
25X1 impact and the pilot [REDACTED] was fatally injured.

25X1 2. The purpose of this training mission was routine high altitude
proficiency flight for the pilot. The aircraft departed [REDACTED] on a
scheduled 0215Z take off and apparently flew the planned round robin training
route. During the approach for landing, the Mobile Control Officer observed
what appeared to be a normal approach to runway 05. At touchdown approx-
imately 1200 feet from approach end of runway, the aircraft skipped slightly
and touched down a second time in a right drift. At this point, aircraft
started off the runway to the right, crossed a taxiway and struck a 6 1/2 foot
runway marker adjacent to the taxiway and then continued on across the
infield. As the aircraft struck the runway marker, Mobile Control noted an
increase in power signifying an attempted go around. The aircraft again left
the ground, approximately 2600 feet from the approach end of the runway, and
started a slow left climbing turn with nose high. From this nose high left
bank attitude, the aircraft apparently stalled, hit the ground and started burn-
ing approximately 100 feet to the left of the runway. Weather at time of the
accident was 2,000 feet scattered, 7 miles visibility and wind at 12 knots from
100 degrees.

IDEALIST



4. An Accident Investigation Board is being appointed by Project Headquarters. Board makeup and departure time for will be provided when firm.

IDEALIST

TOP SECRET

25X1

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt